

Application Control Number: 09/675,406
Art Unit: 2179

Docket No.: PAI M-3506

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks..

Claims 1-25 remain pending, claims 1, 10, 17, 20 and 22-25 having been amended and claims 5 and 21 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Rejection of Claims 1-25

On page 3 of the Final Office Action of April 8, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,516,202 to Hawkins et al. ("Hawkins") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,408,176 to Urs. Applicants submit that the amended claims obviate the rejection.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a method of managing phone calls initiated from a computing device. The method includes, among other things, initiating a phone call in response to a dial signal, wherein the phone call is placed to a last called phone number if digits were not received from a selectable interface of the computing device just before a dial signal was received in response to the user selecting a call initiation button of the selectable interface, and the phone call is placed to a phone number corresponding to received digits when the digits are received from the selectable interface of the computing device just before the dial signal was received in response to the user selecting the call initiation button of the selectable interface.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner admitted that Hawkins fails to disclose or suggest that a phone call is placed to a last entered phone number if digits are not received just before a dial signal is received from a call initiation button. For at least this reason, Applicants submit that Hawkins fails to disclose or suggest initiating a phone call in response to a dial signal, wherein the phone call is placed to a last called phone number if digits were not received from a selectable interface of the computing device just before the dial signal

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was received in response to the user selecting a call initiation button of the selectable interface, and the phone call is placed to a phone number corresponding to received digits when the digits are received from the selectable interface of the computing device just before the dial signal was received in response to the user selecting the call initiation button of the selectable interface, as required by amended claim 1.

Urs discloses that when caller-related information (information that a user of a communication unit could use to initiate a communication in response to a voice mail message, see Urs, at col. 3, lines 21-25) is received, the communication unit stores the information. The user may then initiate a communication using the stored caller-related information at any time. Alternatively, a converter device may extract the caller-related information, in real time, from an incoming voice mail and may convert the caller-related information to an alphanumeric string. The communication unit may then wait until a request is received for the caller-related information and may then send the information to the communication device.

Applicants submit that Urs does not disclose or suggest initiating a phone call in response to a dial signal, wherein the phone call is placed to a last called phone number if digits were not received from a selectable interface of the computing device just before the dial signal was received in response to the user selecting a call initiation button of the selectable interface, and the phone call is placed to a phone number corresponding to received digits when the digits are received from the selectable interface of the computing device just before the dial signal was received in response to the user selecting the call initiation button of the selectable interface, as required by amended claim 1.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants submit that Hawkins and Urs do not disclose or suggest, either separately or in any combination, initiating a phone call in response to a dial signal, wherein the phone call is placed to a last called phone number if digits were not received from a selectable interface of the computing device just before the

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dial signal was received in response to the user selecting a call initiation button of the selectable interface, and the phone call is placed to a phone number corresponding to received digits when the digits are received from the selectable interface of the computing device just before the dial signal was received in response to the user selecting the call initiation button of the selectable interface, as required by amended claim 1. Applicants therefore request that the rejection of claim 1 and dependent claims 2-4 and 6-9 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claims 10 and 17 recite features similar to those of amended independent claim 1 and are patentable over Hawkins and Urs for at least reasons similar to those provided with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 10, 17 and dependent claims 11-16, 18-20 and 22-25 be withdrawn.

Claims 5 and 21 were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer thereby making the rejection of these claims moot. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 5 and 21 be withdrawn.

Applicants further submit that claims 9 and 25 are also patentable over Hawkins and Urs for other reasons. Claim 9 depends from claim 1 as a base claim and further recites receiving an ended connection signal, and initiating a lapse time routine in response to receiving the ended connection signal. Similarly, claim 25 depends from claim 17 as a base claim and further recites receiving an ended connection signal, and initiating a lapse time routine in response to receiving the ended connection signal.

On page 6 of the current Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 9 and 25 by stating, "Hawkins teaches a screen that provides the options of hanging up (ending connection), (col. 7, lines 42-44)." Applicants submit that neither Hawkins nor Urs disclose or suggest, either separately or in combination, initiating a lapse time routine in response to receiving the ended connection signal, required by claims 9 and 25. Further, the Examiner was completely silent regarding a prior art disclosure or suggestion of this feature. Because

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the Examiner failed to show that the prior art references teach or suggest the above-mentioned feature, Applicants submit that the Examiner failed to establish a proper *prima facie* case of obviousness.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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